

HO-1054
Humphrey-Young House
1575 Grooms Lane
Private

Description:

The Humphrey-Young House is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by one-bay frame I-house with cross gable, and has a two-story, one-bay by one-bay ell on the northeast. The foundation is rubble stone, and there is vinyl siding and a gable roof with asphalt shingles. The main block roof has a northwest-southeast ridge and the ell has a northeast-southwest ridge. The basement is exposed on the southeast. There is an interior brick chimney centered on the ridge of the ell. The southwest elevation has a new door in the center bay of the first story, with a two-over-two sash to either side; these are typical for the house. There is a one-bay, one-story porch with turned posts, jig-sawn brackets, a new railing and balustrade, and a hipped roof. The cross gable has a vent. There is a box cornice with returns. There is a modern one-story shed-roofed addition in the re-entrant angle of the main block and ell.

Significance:

In 1895 a plot of land on the hill overlooking Woodstock that was owned by Edward and Gertrude Benzinger was subdivided into ten building lots. The lots were situated on both sides of a northwest-southeast road that was accessed from Woodstock road by a steep narrow lane that originally was to zig-zag up the hill where the George Humphrey House is now located. The road was straightened out and lot number nine was sold to brothers David and William Donovan in 1896. The Donovans sold the lot to their mother several months later, and she held on to it for 14 years, selling it to George Humphrey in 1910 for only \$400. Nine years later Humphrey sold the property to Thomas and Emma Young for \$1,800. The substantial increase in the price of the property surely indicates that Humphrey built a house on the land, probably c. 1910-11. The house he built is a traditional I-house with a cross gable, a form that became very popular in Howard County c. 1890-1915. Humphrey was also a storekeeper in Woodstock, and it is not known whether he eventually bought out the Donovan store or ran a competing enterprise. It is also not clear whether he built this house for himself or as a speculative venture either to rent or sell to a neighbor, though given his ownership of a number of houses, the latter seems more likely.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1054

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Humphrey-Young House

other

2. Location

street and number 1575 Grooms Lane not for publication

city, town Woodstock vicinity

county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Walter Rocha

street and number 1575 Grooms Lane telephone

city, town Woodstock state MD zip code 21163

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 11925 folio 197

city, town Ellicott City tax map 11 tax parcel 12 tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category

☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both

Current Function

☐ agriculture ☐ landscape
☐ commerce/trade ☐ recreation/culture
☐ defense ☐ religion
☒ domestic ☐ social
☐ education ☐ transportation
☐ funerary ☐ work in progress
☐ government ☐ unknown
☐ health care ☐ vacant/not in use
☐ industry ☐ other: _____

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

0

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1054

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary:

The Humphrey-Young House is a 2 1/2-story, three-bay by one-bay frame I-house with cross gable, and has a two-story, one-bay by one-bay ell on the northeast. The foundation is rubble stone, and there is vinyl siding and a gable roof with asphalt shingles. The main block roof has a northwest-southeast ridge and the ell has a northeast-southwest ridge. The basement is exposed on the southeast. There is an interior brick chimney centered on the ridge of the ell. The southwest elevation has a new door in the center bay of the first story, with a two-over-two sash to either side; these are typical for the house. There is a one-bay, one-story porch with turned posts, jig-sawn brackets, a new railing and balustrade, and a hipped roof. The cross gable has a vent. There is a box cornice with returns. There is a modern one-story shed-roofed addition in the re-entrant angle of the main block and ell.

Description:

The Humphrey-Young House is located at 1690 Woodstock Road about 1/4 mile southwest of Woodstock in north-central Howard County, Maryland. The house sits on a triangular lot at the intersection with Grooms Lane, and the lot slopes steeply down to the southeast. The house faces southwest toward the intersection, with Grooms Lane passing along the northwest side.

The house is a 2 1/2-story, three-bay by one-bay frame I-house with cross gable, and has a two-story, one-bay by one-bay ell on the northeast. The foundation is rubble stone, and there is vinyl siding and a gable roof with asphalt shingles. The main block roof has a northwest-southeast ridge and the ell has a northeast-southwest ridge. The basement is exposed on the southeast. There is an interior brick chimney centered on the ridge of the ell.

The southwest elevation has a new door in the center bay of the first story, with a two-over-two sash to either side; these are typical for the house and contain fake shutters, as do all of the southwest windows. There is a one-bay, one-story porch with turned posts, jig-sawn brackets, a new railing and balustrade, and a hipped roof. The second story has three typical windows. The cross gable has a vent. There is a box cornice with returns.

The southeastern elevation has one typical sash on the first and second stories of both the main block and the ell. The gable end has a vent. The northeastern elevation of the ell also has a single window on each story and a vent in the gable end. There is a modern one-story shed-roofed addition in the re-entrant angle of the main block and ell. The second story northwest elevation of the ell and northeast elevation of the main block each have a single window. The northwest elevation of the main block has a window set to the north on both stories, and there are two four-light casements in the gable end.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-1054

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Construction dates c. 1910-11

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

In 1895 a plot of land on the hill overlooking Woodstock that was owned by Edward and Gertrude Benzinger was subdivided into ten building lots of around 1 to 1 ½ acres. The lots were situated on both sides of a northwest-southeast road that was accessed from Woodstock road by a steep narrow lane that originally was to zig-zag up the hill where the George Humphrey House is now located. The road was straightened out and lot number nine, along with lot 10, were sold to brothers David and William Donovan in 1896. The Donovans operated a store in Woodstock and presumably intended to build a house in this conveniently close location. For unknown reasons they sold the lots to their mother several months later, and she held on to them for 14 years, selling them to George Humphrey in 1910 for only \$400. Nine years later, after the death of his wife, Humphrey sold the property to Thomas and Emma Young for \$1,800. The substantial increase in the price of the property surely indicates that Humphrey built a house on the land, probably c. 1910-11. The house he built is a traditional I-house with a cross gable, a form that became very popular in Howard County c. 1890-1915. It is one of about a half-dozen virtually identical houses in what amounts to an early residential subdivision in Woodstock, but there is no apparent familial connection between the owners and it is not known whether there was some other connection that might explain the marked similarity.

Humphrey was also a storekeeper in Woodstock, and it is not known whether he eventually bought out the Donovan store or ran a competing enterprise. It is also not clear whether he built this house for himself or as a speculative venture either to rent or sell to a neighbor, though given his ownership of a number of houses, the latter seems more likely. The Youngs owned the house a considerably long time, until 1953. It passed quickly through several owners before Estil and Anna Hall became long-term owners from 1965 to 2009.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-1054

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1.044 A
Acreage of historical setting 1.044 A
Quadrangle name Sykesville

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 11, parcel 12, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

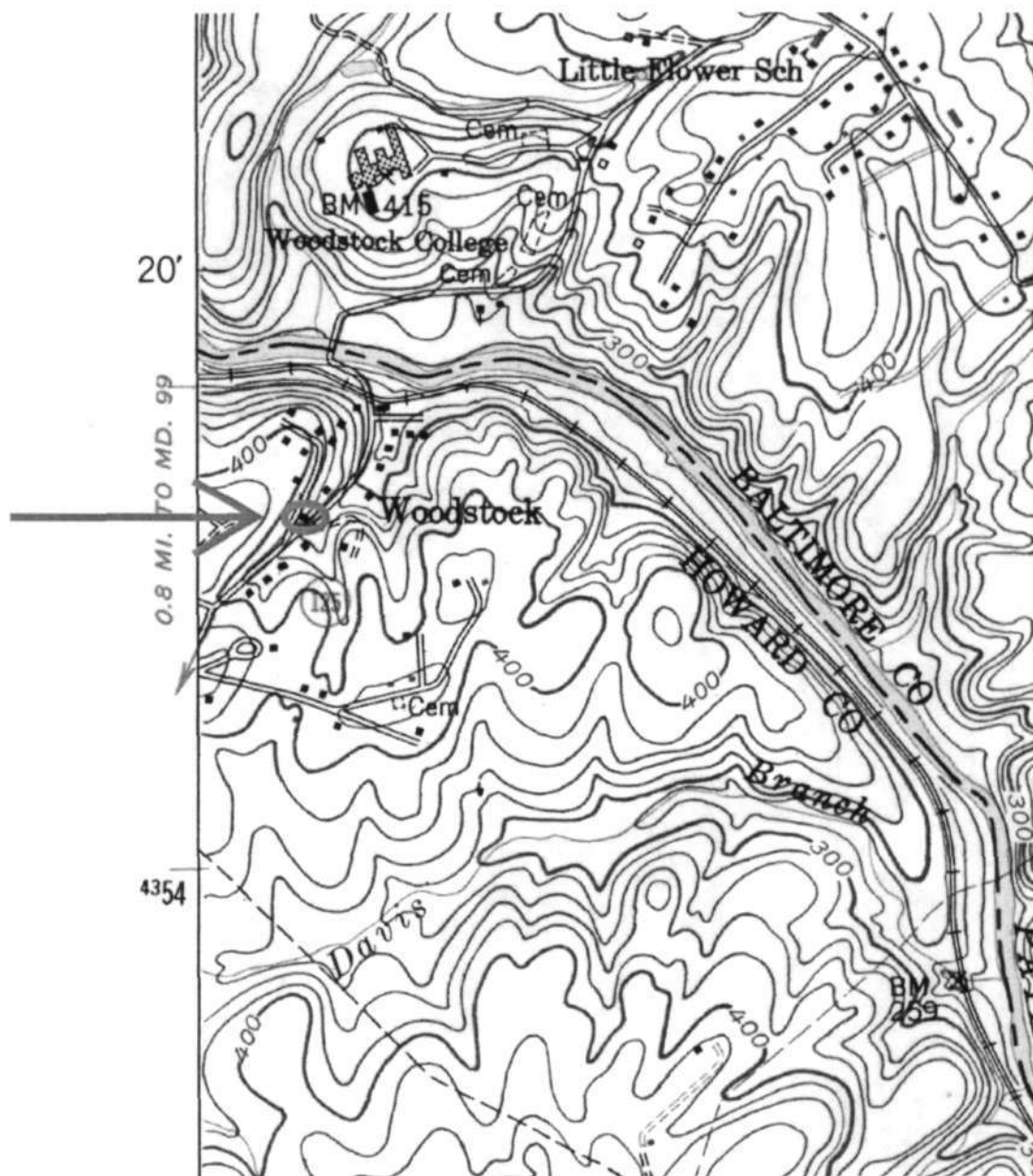
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	November 2011
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



HO-1054
Humphrey-Young House
1575 Grooms Lane
Ellicott City quad

HO-1054
Humphrey-Young House
1575 Grooms Lane
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera
HP Premium Plus paper
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-1054_2011-11-02_01
Southwest elevation

HO-1054_2011-11-02_02
Southeast & northeast elevations



HO-1054

Humphrey-Young House

1575 Grooms Lane

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-11-02

MD SHPO

Southwest elevation

1 of 2



HD-105H

Humphrey-Young House

1575 Grooms Lane

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-11-02

MD SHPO

southeast + northeast elevations

2 of 2